

ORDINANCE NO. <u>3741-20</u>

An EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Relating to Utility Late Fees and Shutoffs

WHEREAS,

- A. On January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health confirmed the first case of the novel coronavirus in the United States in Snohomish County, Washington, and local health departments and the Washington State Department of Health have since that time worked to identify, contact, and test others in Washington State potentially exposed to the novel coronavirus in coordination with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- **B.** COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person.
- **C.** On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning January 27, 2020.
- **D.** On February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning February 29, 2020.
- **E.** On March 4, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Everett proclaimed that a civil emergency exists in the City of Everett under Chapter 9.02 of the Everett Municipal Code.
- **F.** On March 11, 2020, the Governor of Washington state issued an order prohibiting gatherings of 250 people or more for social, spiritual and recreational activities in Snohomish County.
- **G.** On March 13, 2020, the Governor of Washington state issued an emergency order announcing all K-12 schools in Washington to be closed from March 17, 2020 through April 24, 2020 to combat the spread of the disease.
- **H.** On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to allow the government to marshal additional resources to combat the virus.
- I. Cases of COVID-19 already exist in Snohomish County, COVID-19 already caused the death of one Snohomish County resident, and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout Snohomish County may significantly impact the life and health of our

<u>Section 6</u>. The enactment of this Ordinance shall not affect any case, proceeding, appeal or other matter currently pending in any court or in any way modify any right or liability, civil or criminal, which may be in existence on the effective date of this Ordinance.

Section 7. It is expressly the purpose of this Ordinance to provide for and promote the health, safety and welfare of the general public and not to create or otherwise establish or designate any particular class or group of persons who will or should be especially protected or benefited by the terms of this Ordinance. It is the specific intent of this Ordinance that no provision or any term used in this Ordinance is intended to impose any duty whatsoever upon the City or any of its officers or employees. Nothing contained in this Ordinance is intended nor shall be construed to create or form the basis of any liability on the part of the City, or its officers, employees or agents, for any injury or damage resulting from any action or inaction on the part of the City related in any manner to the enforcement of this Ordinance by its officers, employees or agents.

Section 8. This ordinance is an emergency ordinance under Section 3.4 of the City Charter.

Cassie Franklin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Fuller, City Clerk

PASSED: 3/25/2020

VALID: 3/25/2020

PUBLISHED: 3/29/2020

EFFECTIVE DATE: <u>3/25/2020</u>